

THE RICHMOND DISPATCH.
BY THE DISPATCH COMPANY

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Resolutions of respect to deceased members passed by societies, corporations, associations, or other organizations will be charged for as advertising matter.

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WEDNESDAY.....SEPT. 29, 1897.

DEMOCRATIC STATE TICKET.

FOR GOVERNOR:
JAMES HOGUE TYLER,
of Pulaski county.

FOR LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR:
EDWARD ECHOLS,
of Staunton.

FOR ATTORNEY-GENERAL:
ANDREW JACKSON MONTAGUE,
of Danville.

OUR ADVANTAGES.

The commission appointed to consider the advisability of the United States Government's establishing an armor-plate plant has no authority to do more than enquire into the matter and report to Congress.

It has not yet been decided by Congress that the government will go into plate-making upon its own account. Whether it will do so or not depends largely, we suppose, upon the prices that may hereafter be exacted for government work by Mr. Carnegie. If terms can be arranged with that august potentate, no plant will be established—at least, not now—but if they cannot be, then Congress will be compelled to buy or build an armor-plate mill.

There are already two large mills in existence in this country, either of which the United States might buy, for they would be well nigh useless to their owners should the government resolve to have a plant where to do its own work. On the other hand, should the government decide to have a plant of its own, it might fix upon a site therefor much more convenient to the ship-yards than that of either of the Pennsylvania plants. Right there comes in the hope of many of the cities that are expecting this plant to drop into their mouths, so to speak.

The requirements of a site, we take it, are that it shall have all conveniences of transportation for the shipment of its product and for the importation of such foreign ores as may be needed, and that it shall be also a market where the needful domestic ores and coal and coke may be purchased cheaply. Also, that it shall be in a locality where skilled workmen are at all times obtainable. Also, that it shall be within easy reach of all the ship-yards upon the Atlantic, yet safe from any enemy that might land upon that coast.

Richmond, we think, possesses many of the advantages that would be sought for in the selection of a suitable site. How the prices of coal and ores here compare with prices at competing points we do not know; but we are confident that our Chamber of Commerce will be able to lay all of the facts of the case before the commission when it comes to Richmond, as we understand that it is its purpose to do.

We are not overburdened with confidence that the McKinley party is willing to do the South Justice in the distribution of its favors; nevertheless, it is our duty to try to secure them—and this armor-plate factory in particular.

Newport News and Norfolk may have some advantages that Richmond does not possess; but, per contra, we have abundant water-power, while they have none. But if Richmond cannot get this plant we heartily hope some other Virginia city may succeed in doing so. And if the plant (if there is to be one) is not to come to Virginia, then we hope it may go to some other Southern State. However, for the present, this whole question is an open one. Much depends upon whether the great Pennsylvania iron masters will or will not come to terms with the government; but let our Chamber of Commerce Committee work on hopefully. All of its investigations, all of its sittings, will be useful and in the direction of developing public spirit here. If, in this matter, we find ourselves at a disadvantage with any of our business competitors, it is well that the facts should be known and all proper efforts made to remove them. Or, if we do now really occupy an exceptionally favorable position as a manufacturing centre, we should proclaim that fact so loudly and insistently that all the world interested in such matters will be compelled to stop and listen to us.

There is to be a great gathering of cattle men at Fort Worth, Tex., to see a new process of "dipping" cattle. The process is a new scientific discovery of way to prevent and cure the Texas-fever, an ailment affecting cattle, which has for a long time almost defied treatment. It was recently found that a parasitic tick was the cause of the fever, and this "dipping" is said to destroy the tick and consequently the source of the disease.

The experiment is to be tried at Fort Worth on a large scale, under the supervision of Professor Norgaard, of Washington, and a great many men interested are on their way to witness the trial.

JUDICIAL PRESS MUZZLING.

The latest phase of government by injunction is an attack upon the liberty of the press. At Charles City, Iowa, there had for some time been a fight on over the postmaster's office, a Republican being engaged in trying to oust the Democratic incumbent. During the progress of the fight a number of letters passed between the former and Senators Allison and Gear and Representative Updegraff.

The contents of the letters from the legislators mentioned were not very creditable to the three worthies, and disclosed Republican methods in a rather unenviable light. Indeed, it is stated that they showed that the two senators and the congressman were ready to become parties to a conspiracy to remove the Democratic postmaster, a public officer. But they also showed that the Republican applicant had big State influence behind him, and the said applicant in his vanity permitted the letters to be read by his friends generally. In fact, their contents became the town talk, and virtually public property.

Finally copies of the letters fell into the hands of the editor of several local papers, who announced that for the enlightenment and edification of his patrons at large, and in order to expose the conspiracy and the low state of political morality the letters reflected, he would publish them. They were not libellous, and there was no question as to their genuineness, but the putting of them into cold type was calculated to kick up a tremendous row in the Republican camp.

The publication announcement threw the hanker after the post-office. Fresh spots and his friends into a terrible state of mind, but quickly recovering, they lied them to a Republican judge, whom they prayed to set the injunction machinery in motion against the editor. This was promptly done, and the editor was enjoined and restrained from "in any manner using, employing, publishing, or commenting upon any letters to plaintiff from John H. Gear, William B. Allison, and Thomas Updegraff, or any other letters from other parties to said plaintiff or any of them, either in his papers or privately, and from having anything to do with said correspondence without the consent of plaintiff."

Never since the foundation of the republic, except immediately after the civil war, when the Southern States were strapped, has there been such a gross violation, such a dangerous violation, as this of the principle regarding the press enunciated in the Virginia Bill of Rights, and which all of our statesmen have accepted as one of the great bulwarks of our liberties. The editor cannot even comment on public talk and proofs of conspiracy he has in his hands. He is absolutely muzzled. The performance of the Iowa judge is a greater, a more dangerous, outrage upon the freedom of the press and a greater menace to our liberties than were the high-handed dealings of the military satraps that were put over the southern conquered provinces, seeing that the latter made no pretence of acting under color of law. Unless George Mason and the long line of patriots that have affirmed his declaration and doctrine are wrong, we have here a clear case of the prostitution of the judicial arm to purposes of despotism.

And where rests the responsibility for this and the many similar government by injunction outrages that have recently been perpetrated? On what meat have these, our judicial Caesars, fed that they have grown so great that they may with impunity whistle down the wind the spirit of the Constitution and our institutions? The answer is found in the clamor that was raised in certain quarters against the government by injunction plank in the Chicago platform. We need not look further than this for the encouragement the Federal judiciary have received to stretch injunction proceedings as contemplated under the law into gross and tyrannical license. Let those in Virginia who have joined in the clamor pause and still their voices lest government by injunction come home to our people at large in more threatening and oppressive form than it has been recently experienced in this city—lest they aid in breaking down bulwarks of liberty they may not be able to rebuild.

ILL-STARRED CONVICTS.

The crowded condition of the Virginia Penitentiary, where there are said to be six persons to a cell, will come up for discussion at the next meeting of the Legislature. The disposal of the matter should be speedy, as there is nothing easier than to divide them into small gangs and let them work the roads, in the southern part of the State during the winter and in the northern part of the State during the summer. Nor is there anything that would advance the welfare of the country more surely than good roads.—The Warrenton Virginian.

We do not think the Legislature would be disposed to disturb the present contracts with the Davis Shoe Company, but the proposed experiment might well be tried with short-term prisoners hereafter convicted. These might be retained in the counties where they were convicted, or in adjacent counties, and put to work in gangs along with certain misdemeanor prisoners.

But so long as the contracts with the Davis Shoe Company continue—that is, so long as 1,200 or 1,300 prisoners have to be kept here—the penitentiary cells will be disgracefully crowded. The hospital, too, is grossly inadequate. There is one big room for whites and another big room for blacks. When a man is dying in either room his sick companions cannot but witness his death struggles, and hear him fighting for breath! This is a wretched arrangement, yet for lack of room nothing better can be done.

Whether the subjects of future convicts are to be put to work road-making or not, Virginia cannot escape just reproach unless she provides more cell-rooms and better hospital accommodations for the men that she sends to the penitentiary.

It is stated that Emperor Franz Josef of Austria violated the law in giving Premier Badeni permission to fight a duel. Judging from the details of the duel, Franz Josef might have avoided violating the law and gotten much more satisfactory results by permitting Premier Badeni to play centre-rush in a foot-ball match.

GLOUCESTER'S JUDGE.

In deciding to pay the salary of Judge James Lyons Taliaferro, the Board of Supervisors of Gloucester county has raised the question of the right of the Governor to fill, pro tempore, vacancies in county judgeships.

We suppose the contention of the board is that the Governor may "designate" the judge of another county court to hold the Gloucester Court, but cannot "appoint" another person, even for an interim.

This point has been raised several times before, but we believe has never been passed upon by our Supreme Court of Appeals. In most cases governors have made pro tempore appointments, but in some other instances they have "designated" county judges to act.

It has usually been contended that the right of "appointment" is a constitutional right, which the Legislature cannot divert the Executive of, unless it makes other provision for "appointments" to fill vacancies, and this it does not seem to have done. As now generally understood, the Governor may either "designate" another judge to act under the statute, or may make an "appointment" pro tempore, under the Constitution, either of which would be good until the meeting of the Legislature and for thirty days thereafter.

If the Board of Supervisors of Gloucester adheres to its resolution not to pay Judge Taliaferro, the Judge will proceed against it by mandamus, and if he files his petition in our Court of Appeals we shall have from that tribunal a decision which will set the question at rest for all time.

The Charlottesville Progress says: "The Agnew people—that is, the anti-Lamb faction of the Virginia Republicans—pretend to despise Colonel Lamb's movement for a convention, but at the same time they evidently felt it to be necessary to get a letter of endorsement from the administration. They got it, signed by M. A. Hanna. Of course, the Agnew-Bradley aggregation is not uneasy."

We don't know so much about the Hanna brand of Virginia Republicans not being uneasy. Hanna, of course, controls the majority of the agencies in the State, but when the Lynchburg convention meets it will be found, we dare say, that he has not an exclusive monopoly. Then, and thereafter, Colonel Lamb—unless we very much mistake him—will continue to do business in a small way at the old stand.

Now that the glories of the diamond have been dimmed by the season, the college athletes will become embroiled on the gridiron.

Hanna is being heralded abroad as a first-rate stump-speaker. He is most effective, however, when standing on his bar!

Debs now declares that strikes are altogether useless. Yet, they are the agencies that have made Debs all that he is.

Was ist los mit uns?

DEMOCRATIC MEETINGS.

Appointments for Public Speaking for Several Weeks Ahead.

Democratic State Committee, Room 46, Chamber Commerce Building. Speakers and times and places of speaking are announced as follows:

J. HOGUE TYLER.

Mecklenburg, September 30th.

Danville, Oct. 1st.

Greensboro, October 4th (court-day).

Appomattox Court, October 7th.

Caroline Court, October 12th.

Lynchburg Fair, October 13th.

Alexandria city, October 15th (night).

Fairfax Court, October 18th.

EDWARD ECHOLS.

Cumberland Courthouse, September 30th (special).

Allegheny Court, October 5th.

A. J. MONTAGUE.

Northampton, September 28th (special).

 Pulaski Court, October 30th. || Wythe Court, October 11th. |
| Giles Court, October 12th. |
| Fredericksburg, October 15th. |
| Carroll Court, October 18th. |

JOHN W. DANIEL.

King George Court, October 7th.

Louisia Court, October 11th.

JOHN LAMB.

King William Court, September 28th.

New Kent Court, October 14th.

Powhatan Courthouse, October 18th.

H. D. FLOOD.

Botetourt Court, October 11th.

Amherst Court, October 18th.

JAMES HAY.

Berryville, October 4th.

Winchester, October 6th (night).

Shenandoah Court, October 11th.

Greene Court, October 18th.

Rockingham Court, October 18th.

PETER J. OTLEY.

Charlotte Court, October 4th.

Republican Grove, October 21st (6 o'clock P. M.).

Roanoke Court, October 18th.

C. A. SWANSON.

Carroll Court, October 18th.

CHARLES M. WALLACE, JR.

Cumberland Courthouse, September 30th (special).

MARYUS JONES.

Mathews Court, October 11th.

York Court, October 18th.

WILLIAM F. RHEA.

Russell Court, October 11th.

R. L. MONTAGUE.

Goodland Court, October 18th.

GEORGE W. MORRIS.

Wetzel, Greene, October 8th (night).

Dawsonville, Greene, October 9th (night).

Greene Court, October 12th.

H. D. FLOOD.

Cumberland Courthouse, September 30th.

Bath Court, October 12th.

S. B. SETTLE.

Wetzel, Greene, October 8th (night).

Dawsonville, October 9th (night).

McMullens, October 12th (night).

TRAYLOR ELLISON, Chairman.

Joseph Burton, Secretary.

The City Ordinances—Where Are They?

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

It is an ancient and very reasonable doctrine that no man is expected to observe the law unless he has the means of finding out what the law is. How many citizens of Richmond know what our special municipal law is, or where they can go to learn it? The work of revising the ordinances has been dragging along for more than six years, and without any apparent reason for the delay, we are still awaiting for the privilege of being informed what our rights and duties are under the laws enacted by our city legislature.

This is a matter of too much importance to be trifled with, and even if it should require a little extra diligence on the part of the committee who have it in charge to expedite the completion of the work, it is not easy to see where a little extra diligence could be more profitably exercised.

CITIZEN.

September 24, 1897.

President Pro Tem. of Senate.

(Fredericksburg Free Lance).

It is understood that the name of Hon. Henry T. Wickham will be presented in connection with the position of President pro tem. of the State Senate next winter, and the Free Lance takes great pleasure in endorsing Senator Wickham's fitness for the position.

The Verdict Rendered.

(Alexandria Times).

The Richmond papers of yesterday contain a voluminous reply from Governor

O'Ferrall to Senator Daniel's recent open letter. If this performance should elicit from the Senator some of his incisive remarks it will be to that extent to good; otherwise, we have a most from this needless threshold, on vast issues. The record is in fact made up, and the verdict of the people already rendered.

THE HILL CITY.

A Charter Granted—Approaching Wedding—Very Ill.

LYNCHBURG, VA., September 28.—(Special.)—In the Corporation Court today a charter was granted to the Lynchburg and Boonsboro Road Association, a corporation organized for the purpose of macadamizing the road from Lynchburg to Boonsboro, in Bedford county. The officers are F. S. Kirkpatrick, president; W. C. Lacey, vice-president, and H. M. Sackett, secretary and treasurer. It is estimated that the cost of the improvement will be \$25,000.

Miss Bell Waller Langhorne, an accomplished young lady, will be married tomorrow to Mr. Edwin William Goodwin, of Arrington, Va. The groom to be is a very wealthy and highly successful farmer of Nelson county, his landed estate extending for a long distance along the road that leads from Arrington to Massie's Mills.

Major Thomas J. Kirkpatrick, a leading member of the Lynchburg Bar, is critically ill at his home in this city.

The Lamb faction of the Republican party met to-night and elected delegates to the convention which convenes in this city next month. The Lamb contingent of this city is composed almost exclusively of the negro element.

THE PEANUT MARKET.

A Short Crop and High Prices—The Stock Low.

NORFOLK, VA., September 28.—(Special.)—Peanut dealers expect a short crop, and probably not since the death of the big trust have prices ruled as high as they are expected to be this fall. All the reports from the vicinity and from the vast sections of the country where peanuts are grown indicate that the crop will be light, and the quality inferior this year. The cause is the drought.

Last year at this time there was a stock of old peanuts amounting to 50,000 bags here; but now there are not more than 10,000. With this as the situation, the prices of the new crop will not be any lower than the prices of the old crop are now. The prices are high now because of the conditions. Nuts are selling at 2-1/2¢ to 3¢ and 3 cents a pound. Old Spanish nuts are bringing 50 cents a bushel. The demand for peanuts is active, and the factories are busy, with the exception of those which were short on the market, and did not buy a supply after the prices went higher than was anticipated. The crop will not come into the market for about six weeks—two weeks later than last year—and later than the average by three or four weeks.

The Fredericksburg Fair.

FREDERICKSBURG, VA., September 28.—(Special.)—The eleventh annual fair of the Rappahannock Agricultural and Mechanical Society began to-day under most favorable auspices. The weather was charming, and the races unusually good, but the attendance was quite small. The officers of the fair are: President, J. H. Denny; Vice-President, J. H. Denny; Secretary, J. H. Denny; Treasurer, J. H. Denny. The fair will continue for ten days.

Dying of Dilemma.

DWALE, DICKENSON COUNTY, VA., September 28.—(Special.)—Your correspondent learns that Miss Mansfield, one of Letcher county's (Ky.) oldest pioneers, is dying of dilemmas at his old home, on Elkhead creek, ten miles east of Sergeant, aged 90. He has lived a life of adversity throughout Eastern Kentucky. Mrs. J. H. Ross, an elderly lady of Clintwood, is in critical condition from suffocation. She is given to attacks of suffocation in its most acute form, and it is thought she will not survive this attack.

The Poster Girl.

The blessed Poster Girl leaned out from a pink-purple Heaven. "Old Charlie," she said, "I'm green; Her bang was cut uneven; She had three fingers on her hand, And the hairs on her head were seven.

Her robe, ungrit from clasp to hem, No sunflowers did adorn; But a Kerf Cutker had cut her hair, And she was rather tall—at least She reached up to the sun.

It was a kind of wobbly wave That she was standing on, And high aloft she held a scarf That must have weighed a ton; And she was rather tall—at least She reached up to the sun.